SPLENDID COMPETITION INSIDE!

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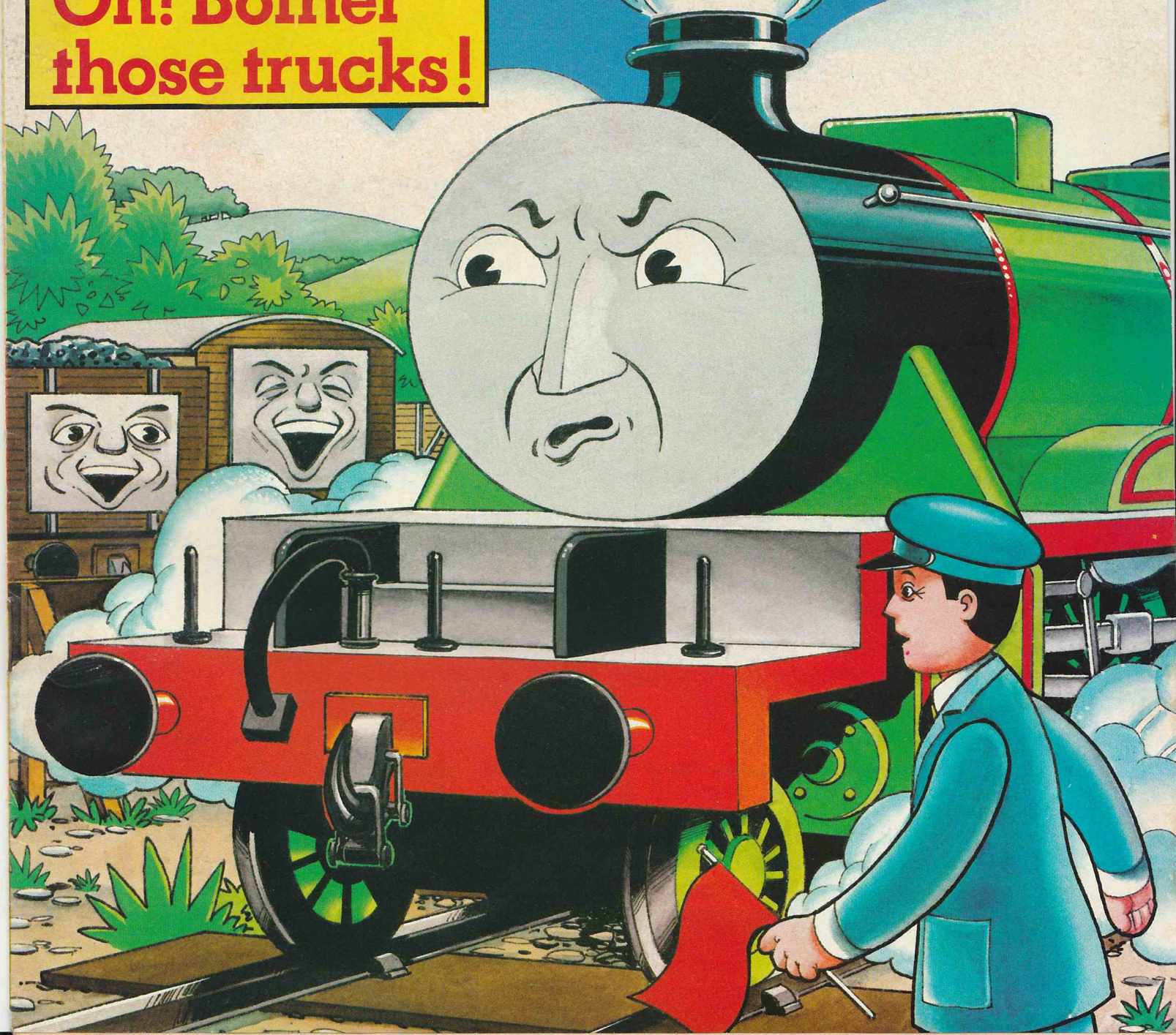
23rd July 1988
No.20 35p

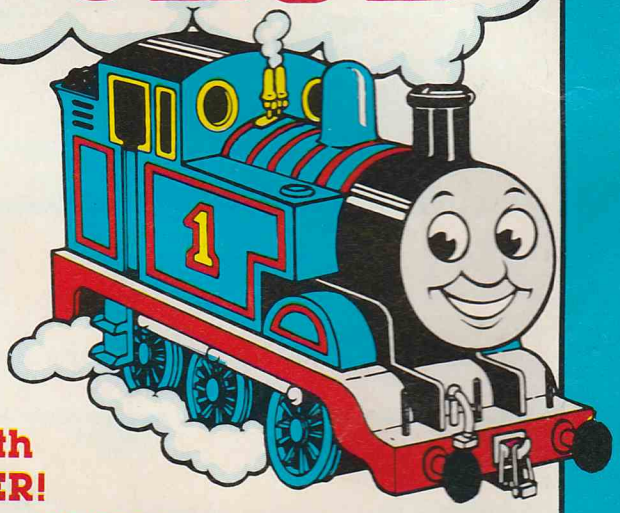
THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE & FRIENDS

Based on The Railway Series by The Rev. W. Awdry.

Oh! Bother those trucks!



THE THOMAS CLUB PAGE!



In this issue Diesel proves just what a nasty engine he is. He spreads some silly rumours among the trucks and the engines blame poor Duck! Peep! Peep!

DON'T MISS OUT!

Be sure of your copy of **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends** by having each issue sent directly to your home every fortnight. It costs just £9.00 for a **full year's subscription** – you will also automatically become a member of the **Thomas Club** and will be sent your own splendid **Club Pack**! Details are on page **18**.

CLUB TOKENS!

Another way to join the Club is to collect 3 tokens like the one below. Send one **yellow,** one **red** and one **green** token, together with a large, self-addressed envelope (23 x 16cm) complete with an 18p stamp, to: *The Thomas Club (Tokens), Marvel Comics, 13/15 Arundel Street, London WC2.*

Please allow 28 days for delivery of your Club Pack.

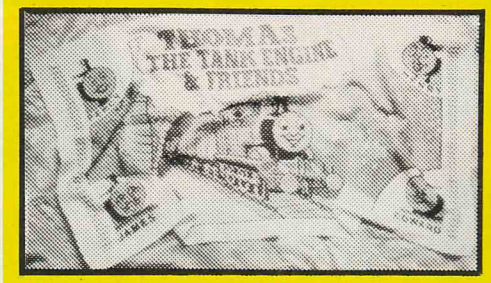
THOMAS TOKEN

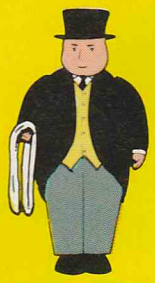
20,000th MEMBER!

Who is the **20,000th member** of the Thomas Club? He or she has won a very splendid **Thomas Electric Train Set** – from *Hornby!* Turn to page 18 to find the lucky reader!
Another **Thomas Electric Train Set** will be speeding through the post to our **50,000th** Club member – perhaps it will be **you?**

THOMAS BATH TOWELS!

We have splendid **Thomas the Tank Engine Bath Towels** for the first **30 Club members** to send us their own drawing of Duck the Diesel having his face washed! Send your entries, together with your name, age and address, to: *Duck Drawing Competition, Marvel Comics, 13/15 Arundel Street, London WC2R 3ED.*





These full-colour towels measure 140 X 70 cm, and come from *J. Teale & Company, London.*

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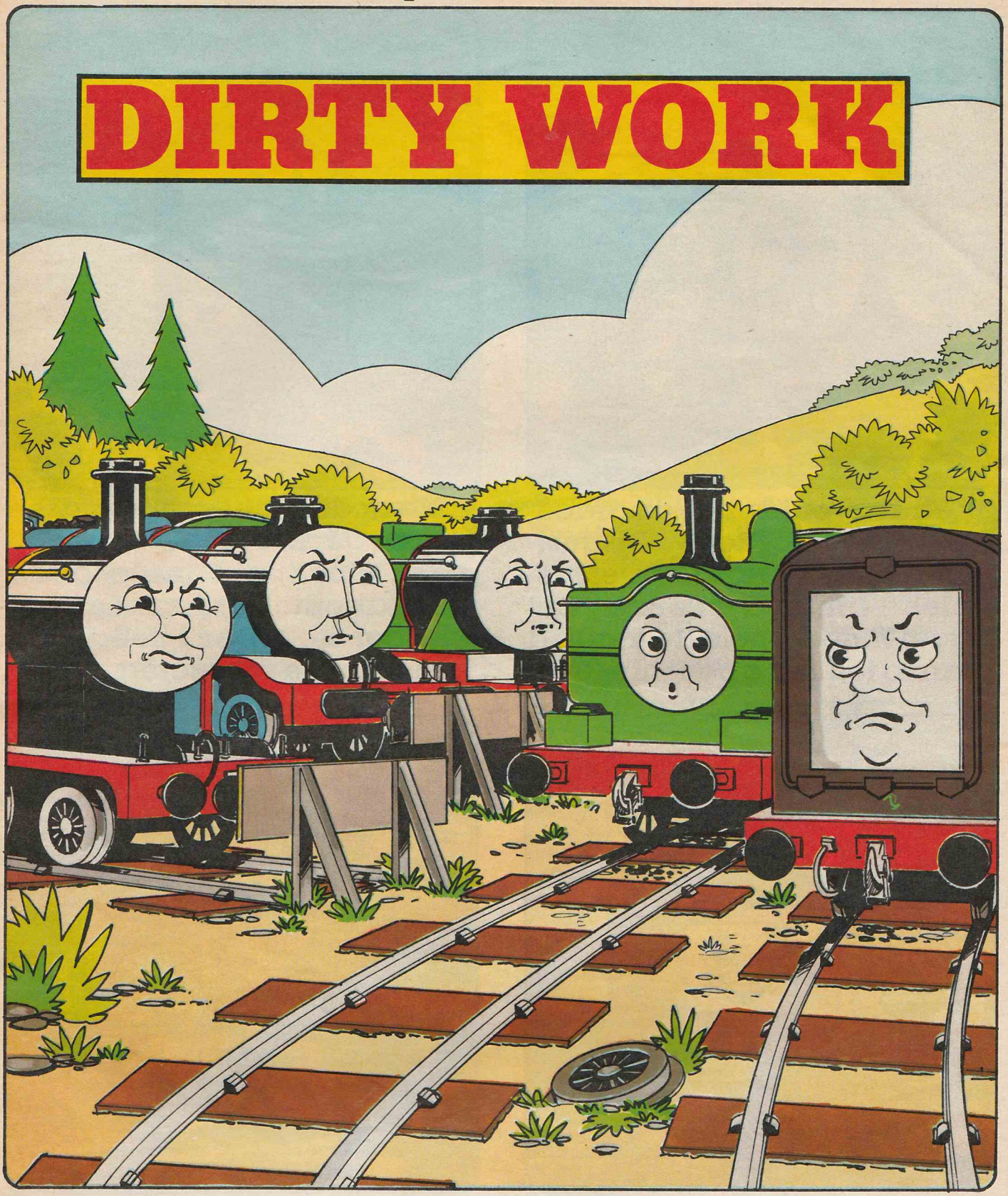
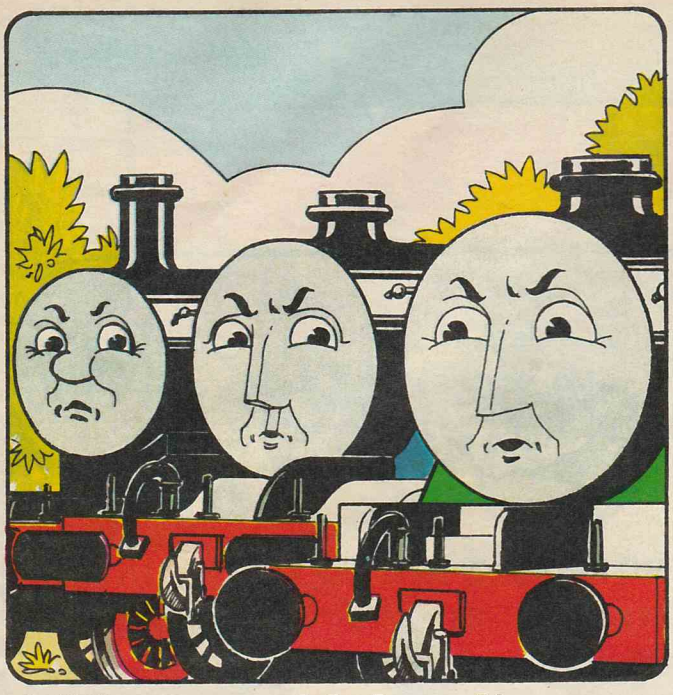
A listen and look story!

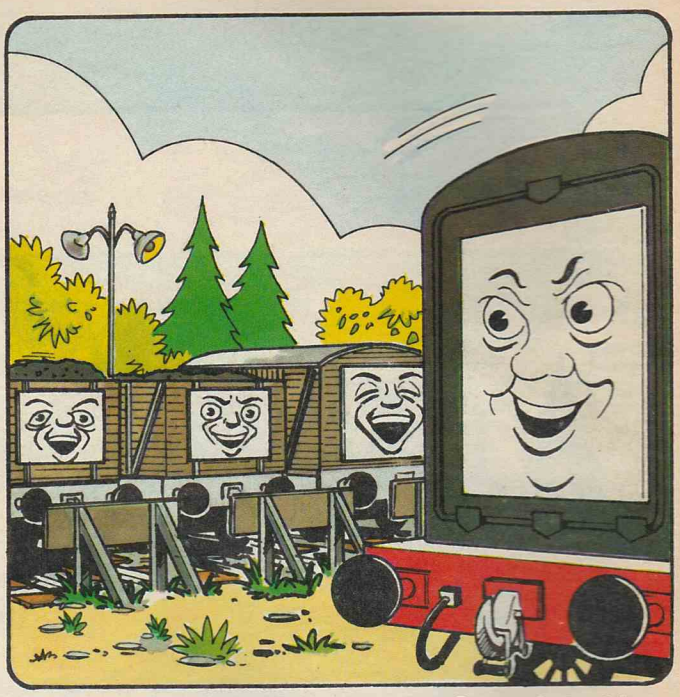


1. Diesel, the new engine, was sulking. The trucks kept singing rudely to him. Duck was horrified. "Shut up!" he ordered and he bumped them hard. "I'm sorry, Diesel."

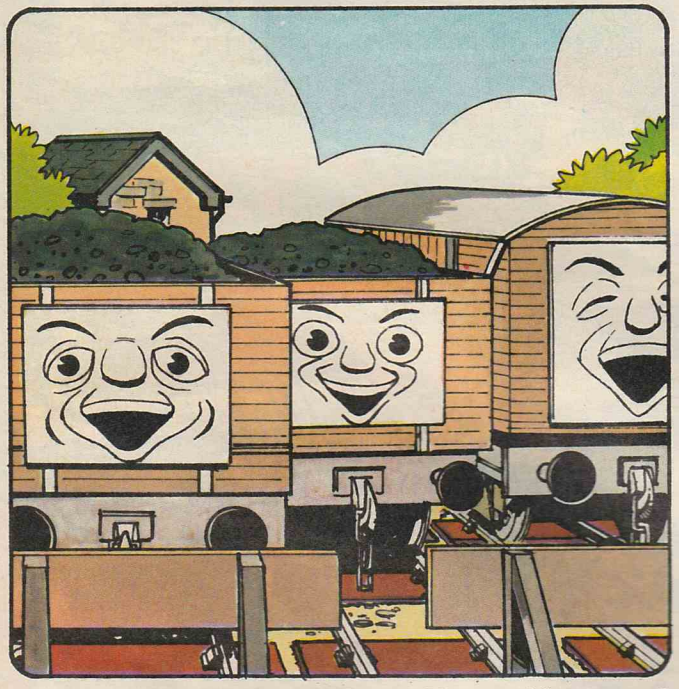
2. Diesel was still furious. "It's your fault," he said. "You **made** them laugh at me." "Nonsense," said Henry. "We engines never talk to trucks about our differences."



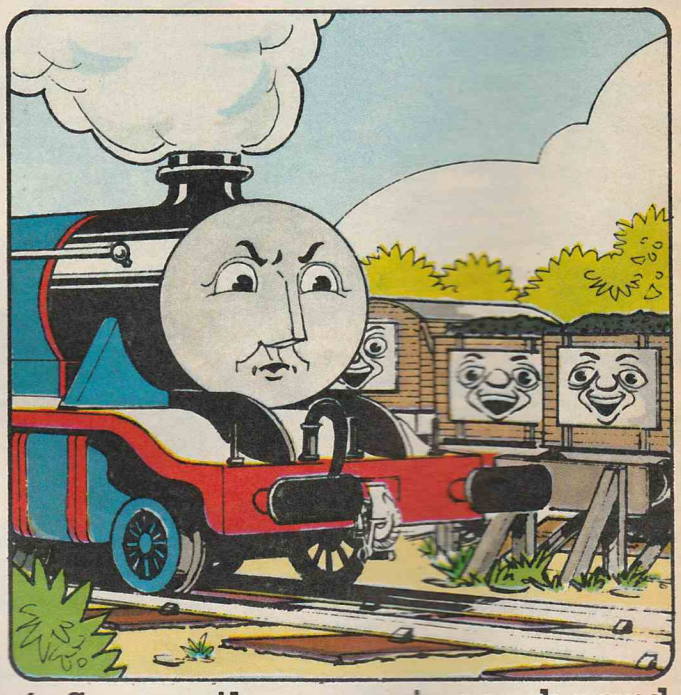
3. "That would be disgraceful!" said Gordon. "Disgusting!" said James. "Despicable!" finished Henry. But Diesel hated Duck. He made a plan to tell lies about him.



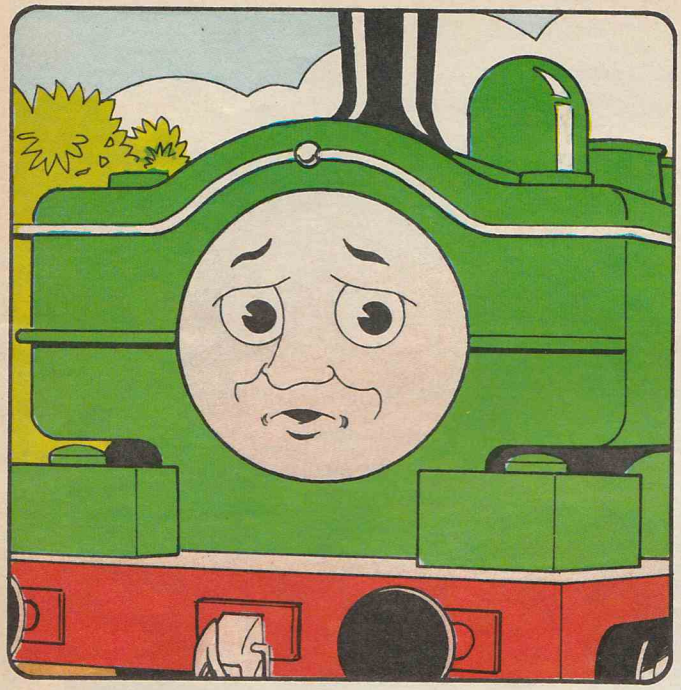
4. Next day he spoke to the trucks. "I see that you like jokes. Duck told me a good joke about Gordon. Let me whisper it . . . Don't tell him I told you," he sniggered.



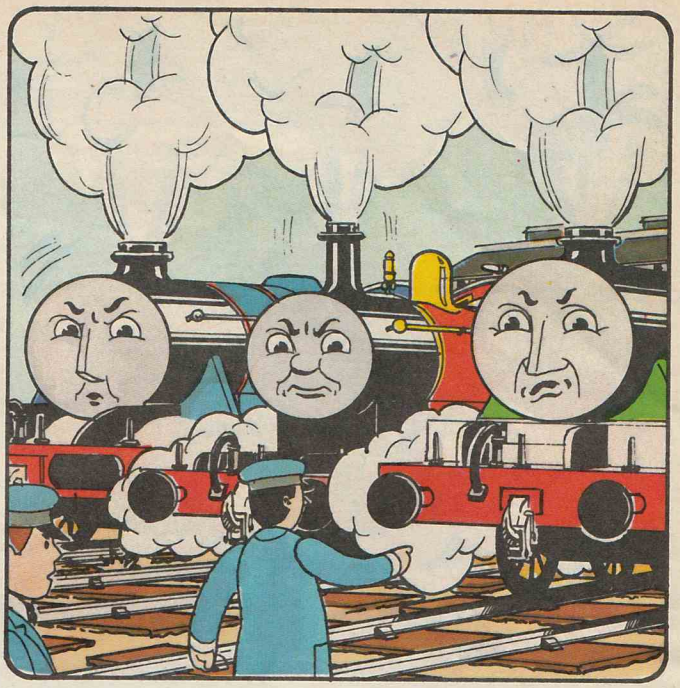
5. "Haw! Haw! Haw!" guffawed the trucks. "Gordon will be cross. Let's **tell** him and pay Duck for bumping us." They laughed rudely at the engines as they went by.



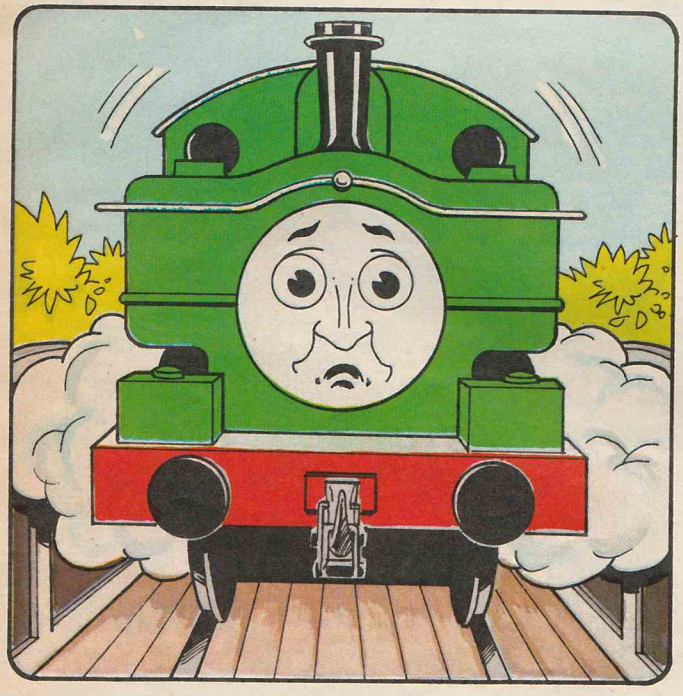
6. Soon the engines heard what Diesel had told the trucks. "Disgraceful!" said Gordon. "Disgusting!" said James. "Despicable!" said Henry. "We cannot allow it."



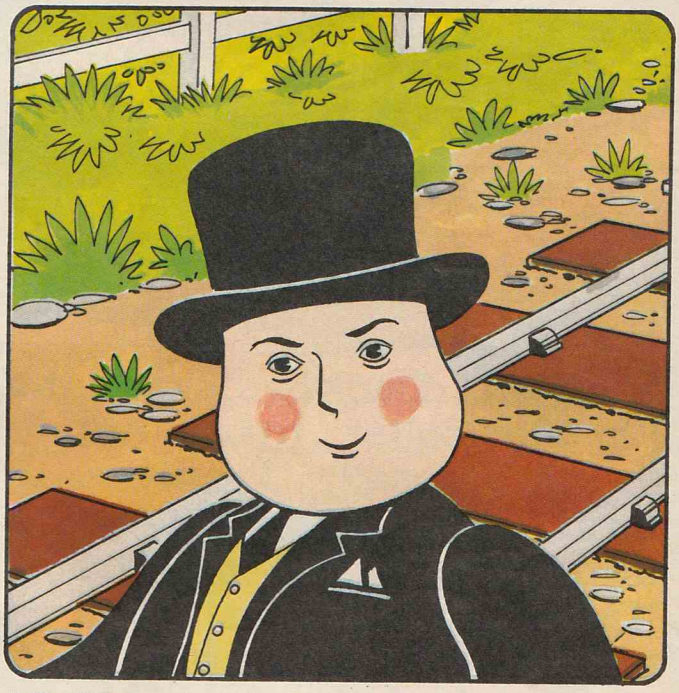
7. They consulted together. "Fancy Duck saying those things about us!" they said. Duck was tired. The trucks had been cheeky. He wanted a rest in the shed.



8. The three engines barred Duck's way. "Hoooooosh! **Keep out**!" they hissed. "Stop fooling," said Duck. "I'm tired." "So are we," hissed the engines. "Tired of **you**!"



9. "We like Diesel. We don't like you," they hissed. "You tell tales about us to the trucks." "I **don't**." "You **do**." "I **don't**." "You **do**." The Fat Controller came out.



10. "Duck called me a 'galloping sausage'," spluttered Gordon. "...rusty red scrap iron," hissed James. "...I'm 'old square wheels'," fumed Henry to the Fat Controller.

11. "Well, Duck?" asked the Fat Controller, trying not to laugh himself. "I only wish that I'd thought of those names myself, sir," said Duck. "Duck made trucks **laugh** at us," the engines said. "Did you?" asked the Fat Controller. "Certainly not, sir," said Duck. "No steam engine would do that." Diesel lurked up.

12. "Diesel, what do you say?" asked the Fat Controller. "I'm sorry, sir, but I know nothing," said Diesel. "I see," said the Fat Controller. Diesel hoped he didn't. "I'm sorry, Duck, but you must go to Edward's station for a while," said the Fat Controller. Duck trundled sadly away, while Diesel smirked in triumph.

The story continues on page 13!

COMPETITION!

Win a splendid prize!

FIRST PRIZE

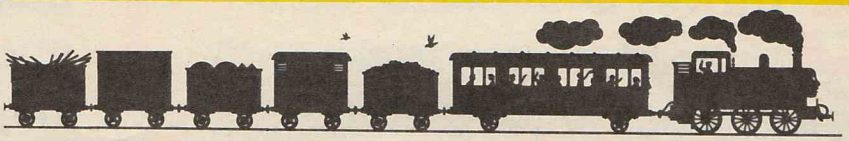
10 remote-controlled Thomas engines must be won!

SECOND PRIZE

15 Thomas, Percy and James sets must be won!

THIRD PRIZE

20 motorised Thomas and Percy engines must be won!

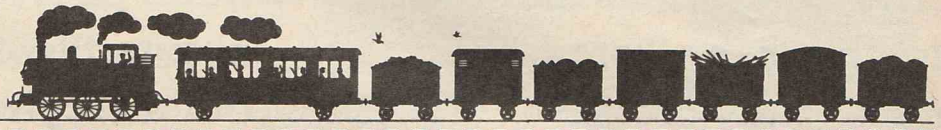


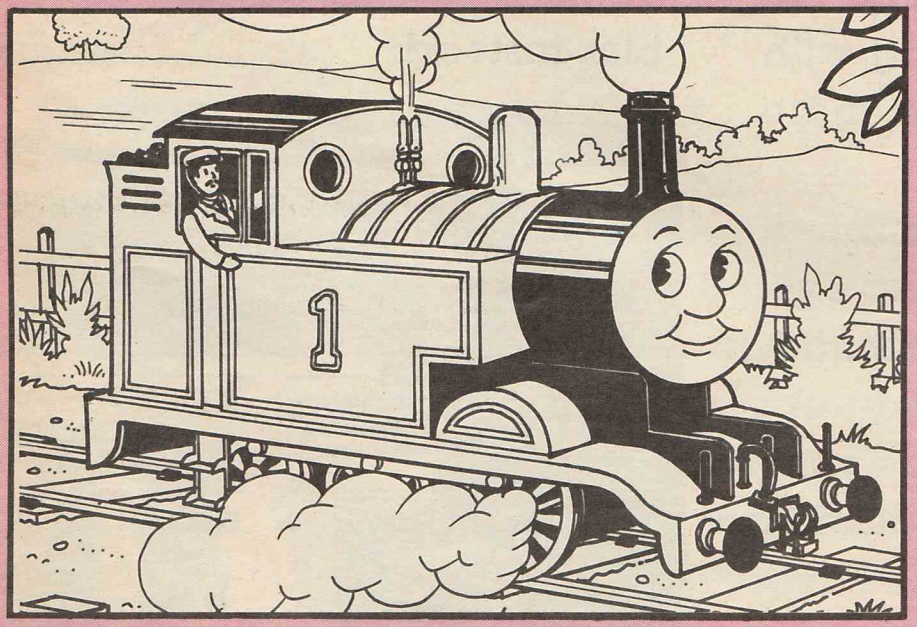
20 RUNNERS UP will receive die-cast miniature models!

All from Ertl Toys!

HOW TO ENTER

Just colour in the picture below as carefully as you can. Cut along the dotted line and send your entry to: *Thomas's Prize Competition, Island of Sodor, c/o Marvel Comics, 13/15 Arundel Street, London WC2.*





Name .....

.....Age ...

Address .....

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My favourite part of Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends is .....

.....

Thomas's Prize Competition, Island of Sodor, c/o Marvel Comics, 13/15 Arundel Street, London WC2.

All entries must reach us by Friday, 29th July 1988.

Rules: No employee of Ertl Toys plc, Britt Allcroft (Thomas) Ltd, or Marvel Comics Ltd may enter this competition. The Editor's decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into.

A read-aloud story!

Percy's Whistle

Every morning Percy arrives in the yard. He pulls his trucks to the large hopper to load them with coal.

"Peep, peep!" Percy whistles happily.

The coal trucks liked to play tricks on Percy. This made Percy cross.

"I'm glad I can whistle," he said. "It makes working with these silly trucks much more fun. Peep, peep!"

The coal trucks grumbled to themselves.

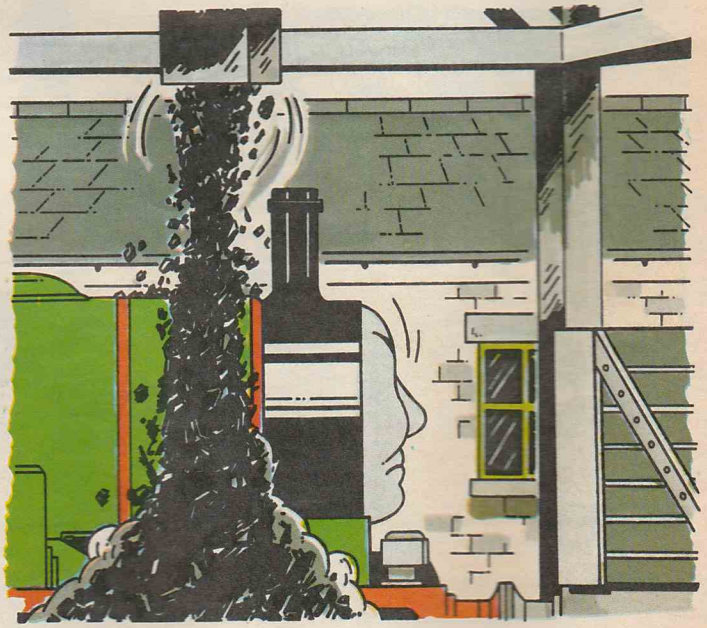
"Percy's always whistling," said one. "It gets on my nerves."

"What can we do?" asked a second.

"We can fix his whistle," chuckled a third.

The next time Percy pushed the trucks to be filled they played a trick they had played once before.

The trucks bumped each other very hard, and the last truck passed the hopper before the coal had come out. Percy was behind the trucks and the coal fell on him instead.



"Stupid trucks," muttered Percy. The workmen had to move all the coal from the line.

"There's no time to clean you up," said Percy's driver. "The trucks have to be taken to the harbour to be unloaded."

Percy puffed off down his branch line. He was very cross.

Percy tried to whistle to cheer himself up but nothing happened. He tried again. And again. It was no use.

"My whistle must be broken. The coal must have damaged it," he cried. "It's all the fault of those silly trucks!"

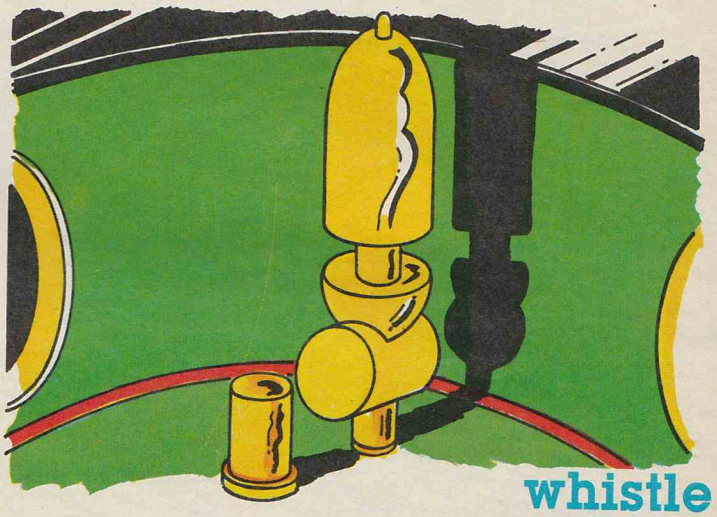
The trucks were pleased. "Percy can't whistle. Percy can't whistle," they sang.

Percy decided to pay them back. He always whistled to warn the trucks when he was slowing down and arriving at a station.

Of course, when he reached the harbour this time, he could not whistle. The driver put on Percy's brakes.

The trucks were still laughing about the trick they had played on Percy.

Percy stopped suddenly. The trucks bumped together so hard that one of them came off the rails.



whistle

"Oooh, ooooh," groaned the trucks.

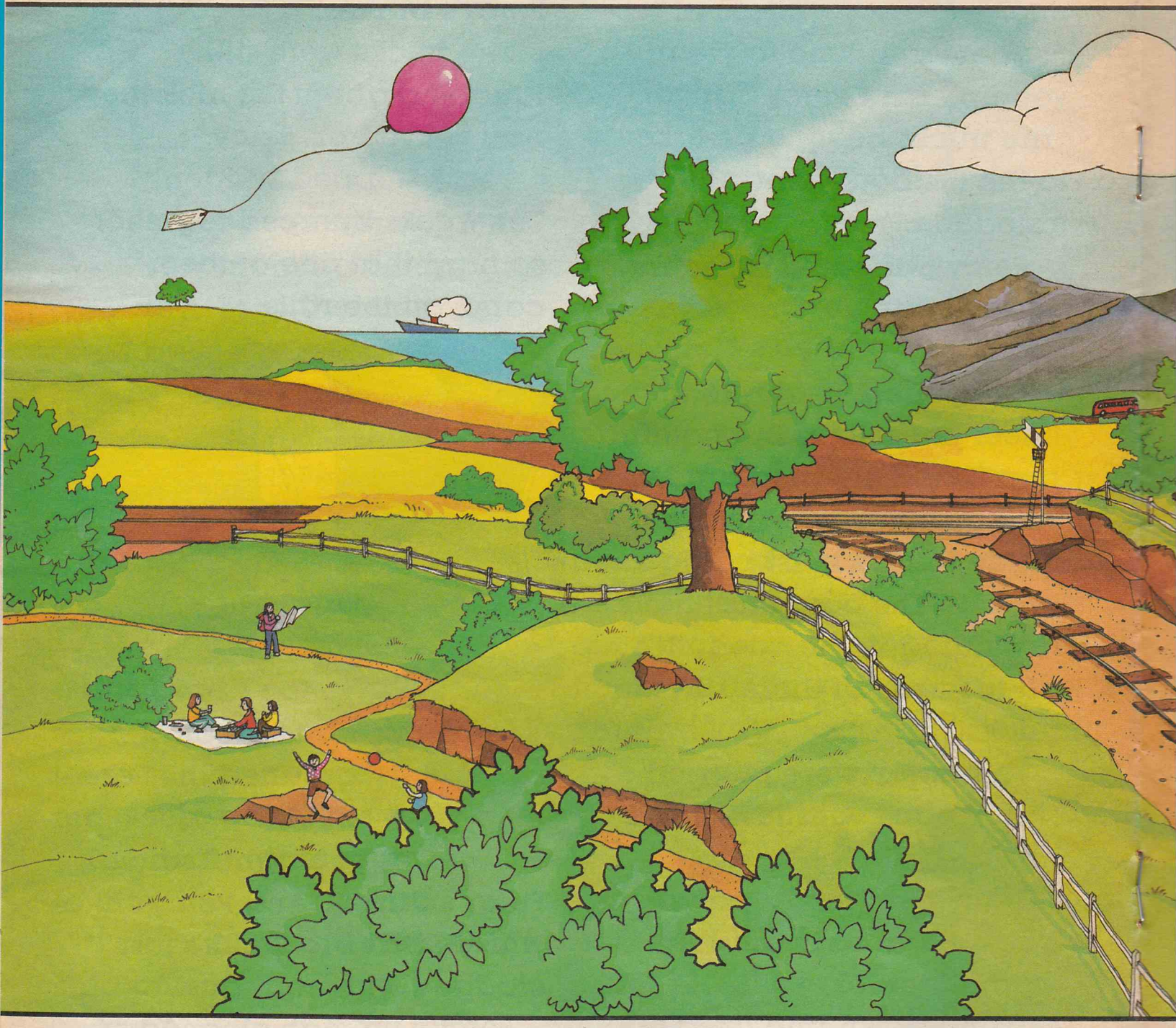
"It serves you right," said Percy's driver. "And Percy's whistle isn't broken. It's just clogged with coal dust."

Percy's fireman cleaned his whistle. "That's better," said Percy. "Peep, peep!"

He was a happy tank engine again!

THE END

Past the ru



What number is Toby the Tram Engine?
Do you know the name of his carriage?
Can you see Bertie the Bus too?
How many balloons are flying past?

Is the signal up
Point to the girl
What colour is th
What sort of ship

uins!

up or down?

girl reading the map!

is the ruin?

ship can you see?

Note for parents

This page is designed to form part of a colourful mural for your child's bedroom, playgroup or classroom. After you have finished reading the comic with your child, remove this part of the centrespread by cutting along the dotted line. There will be a 'mural page' in every issue of **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends.** Why not collect each one and watch Thomas and his friends puff all round the room!

Next: Flying high!

PHOTOGRAPHS for the Fat Controller

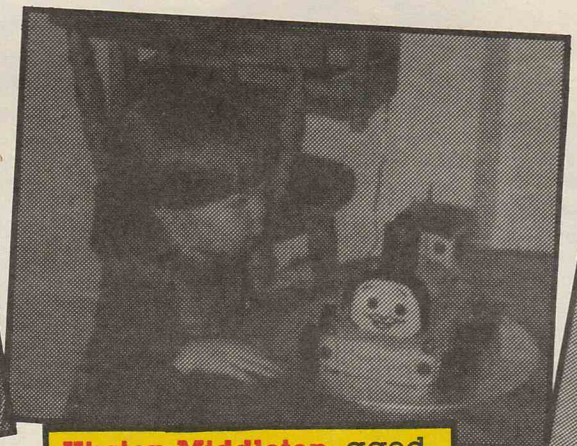
Here are some splendid photographs of some of our Thomas Club members! Upon my soul! Thank you all for sending your photographs – I am very sorry that I do not have space to print them all!

Johnathan Masters, aged 4, from Skipton. Membership no. 12337.

Elizabeth Hazell, aged 3½, from Northampton. Elizabeth likes the mural pages best!

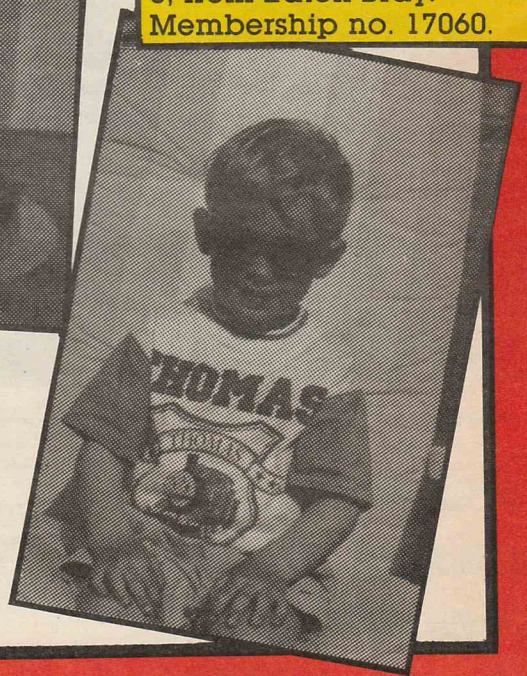
Michael Hill, aged 3, from Salford. Membership no. 13581

Ian Tincknell, aged 3, from Isleworth. Membership no. 2706.



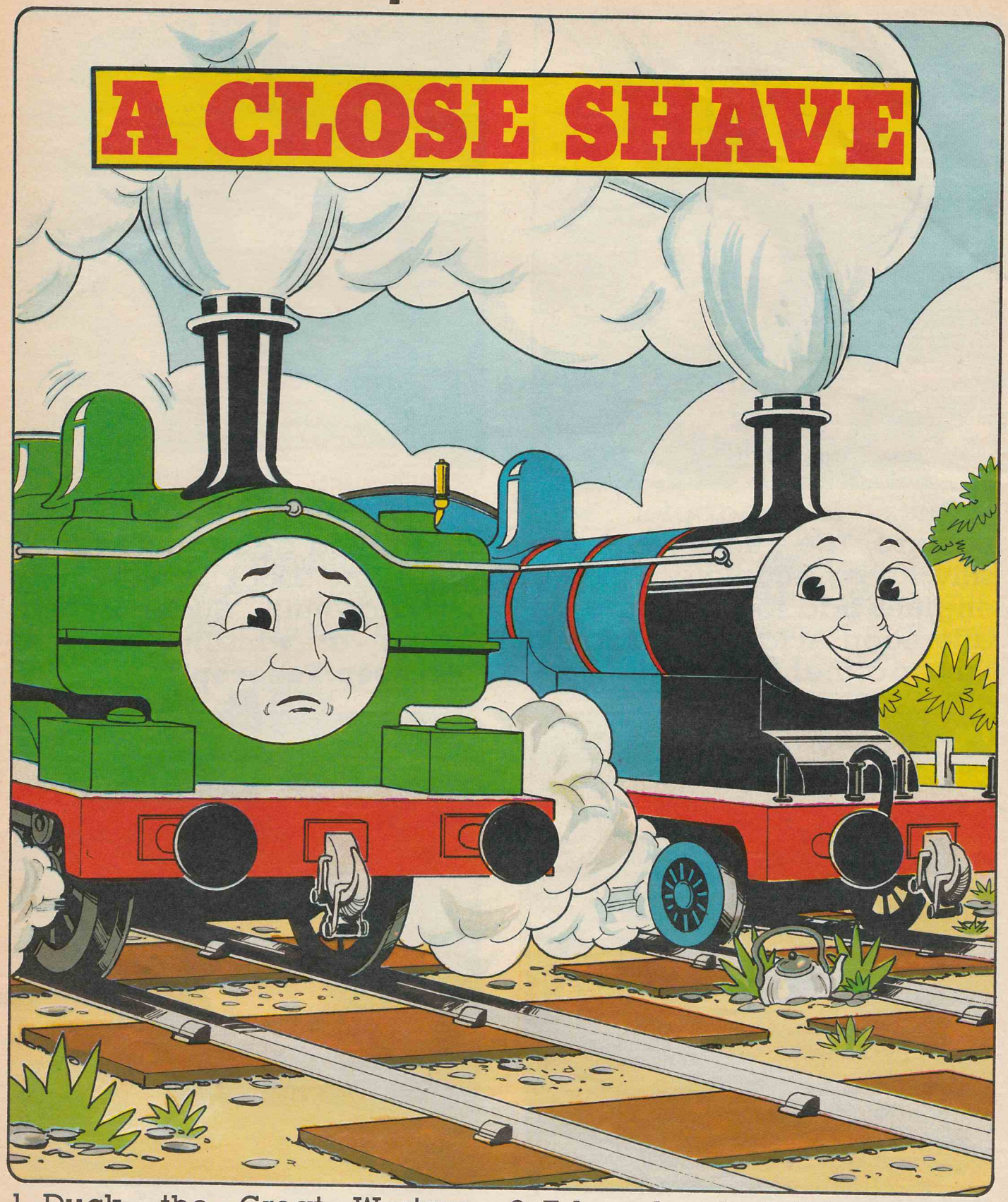
Kirsten Middleton, aged 3, from Bury St Edmunds. Membership no. 0738.

Matthew Saunders, aged 3, from Eaton Bray. Membership no. 17060.



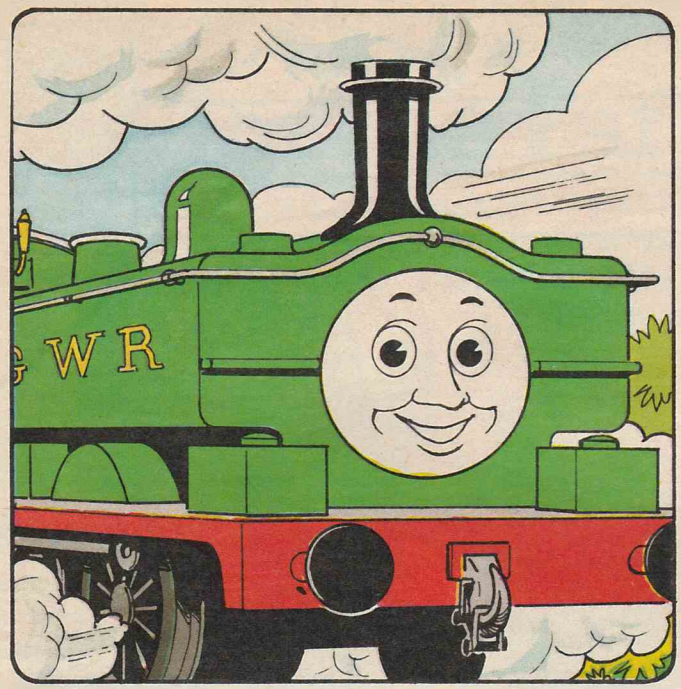
ABC will be back! We had no room for our **ABC page** in this issue – but don't worry! It will be back in **issue 21**

A listen and look story!

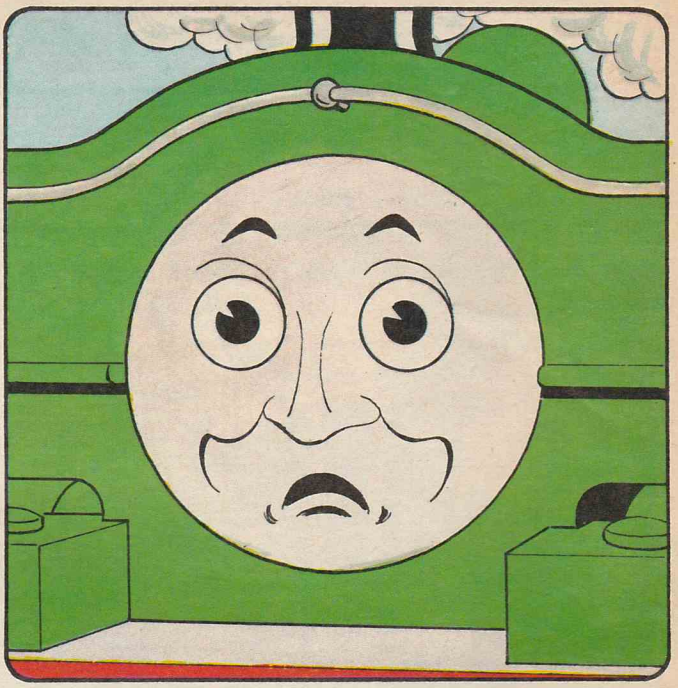


1. Duck, the Great Western Engine, puffed sadly into Edward's station. "It's not fair," he said. "Diesel has been telling lies about me. Everyone thinks I'm horrid."

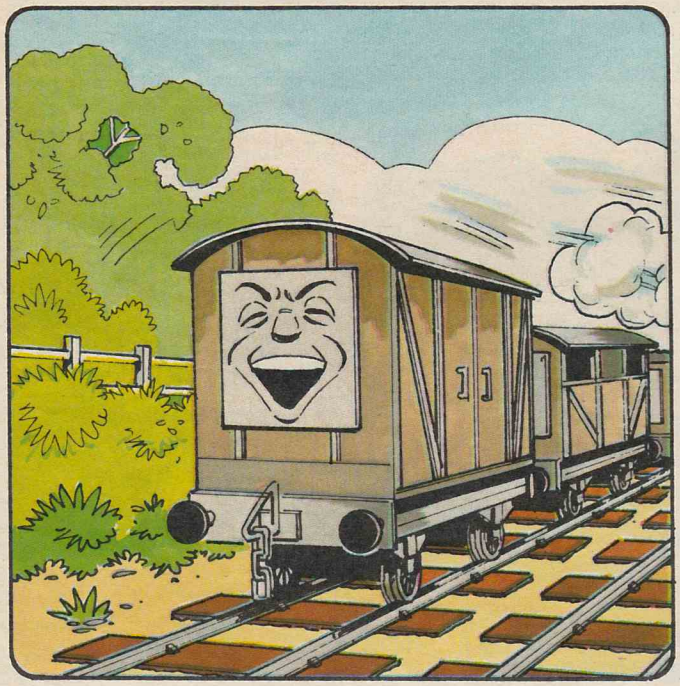
2. Edward smiled. "I know you aren't and so does the Fat Controller," he said. "You wait and see. Why don't you help me with my trucks?" They set to work at once.



3. Duck felt happier with Edward. The trucks were very silly, heavy and noisy. The two engines had to work hard all afternoon. At last they reached the top of the hill.

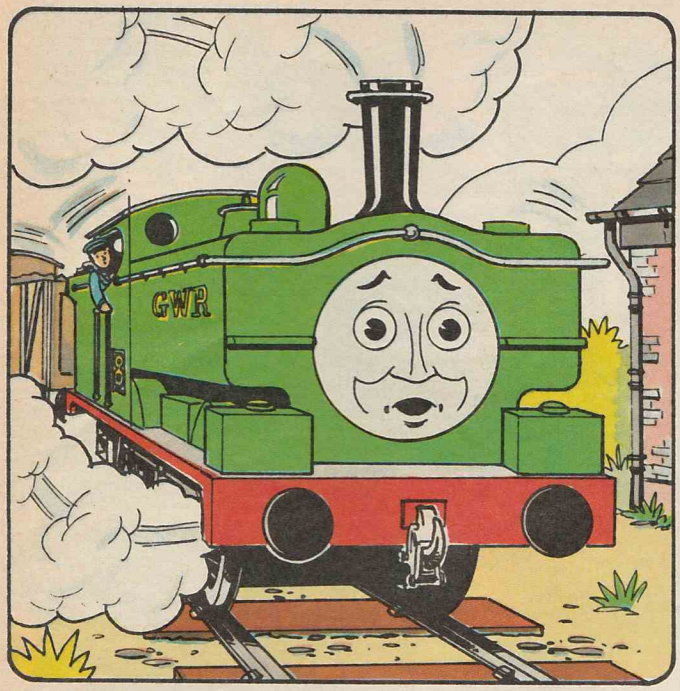


4. "Goodbye," whistled Duck, and rolled gently over to the other line. Duck loved coasting downhill. Suddenly, he heard a whistling sound. "**Peeeeep! Peeeeep!**"

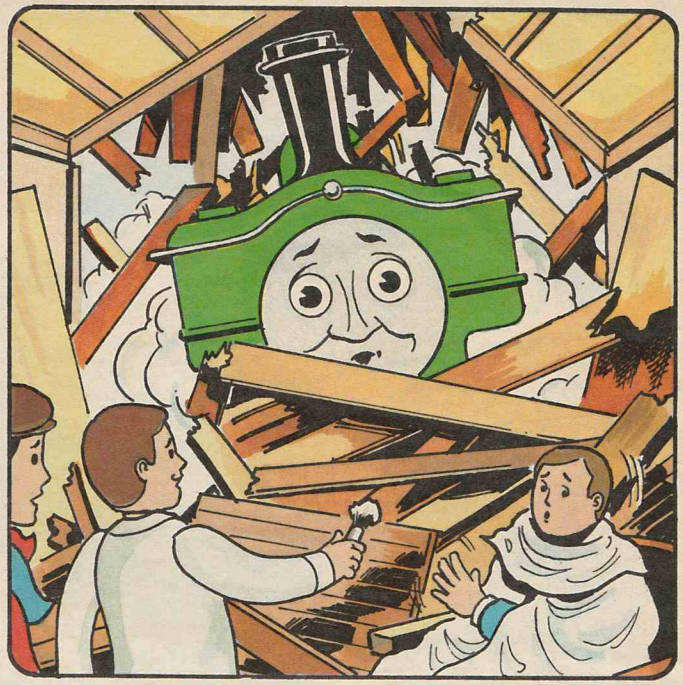


5. Some trucks had broken away and were chasing Duck down the hill. "Chase him! Bump him! Throw him off the rails," they yelled. "Hurry, Duck!" said the Driver.

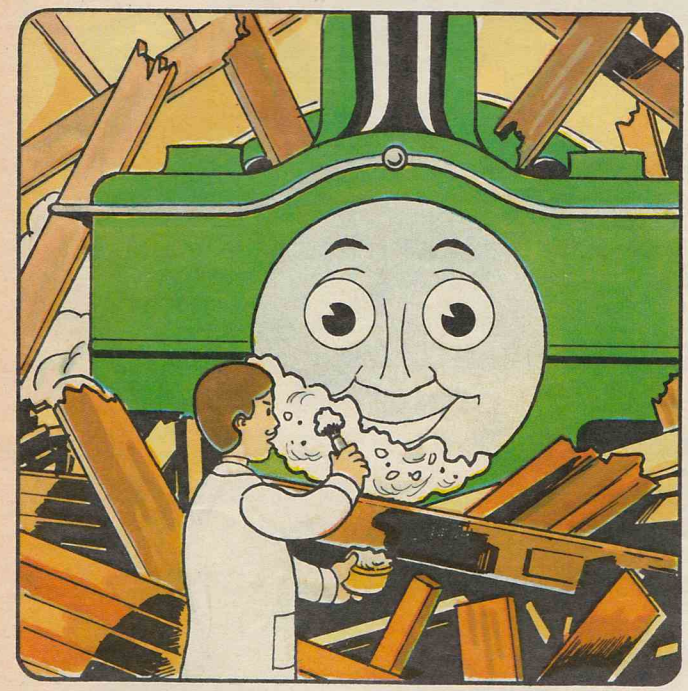
6. They raced past Edward's station, but the trucks were catching up. "As fast as we can, then they'll catch us gradually," said the Driver. "Oh glory! Look at that!"



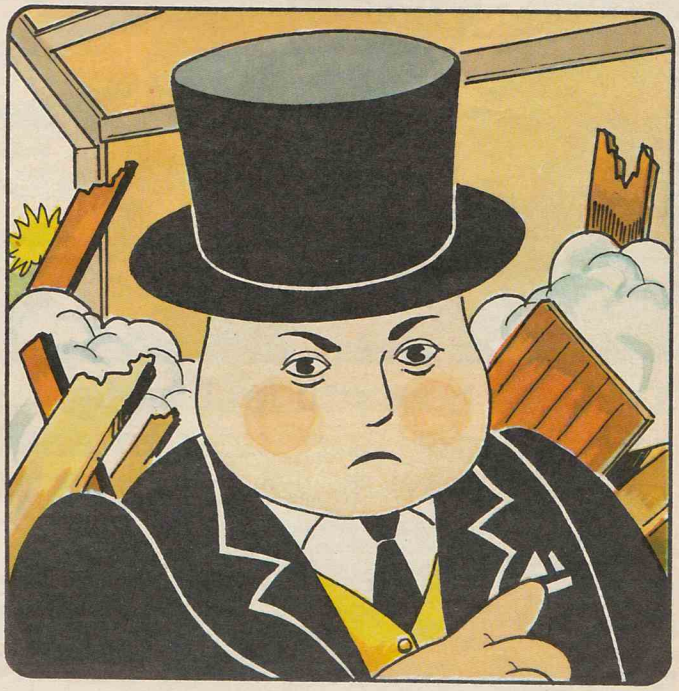
7. James was just pulling out on their line from the station ahead. Any minute there could be a crash! Duck put all his weight and steam against the trucks.



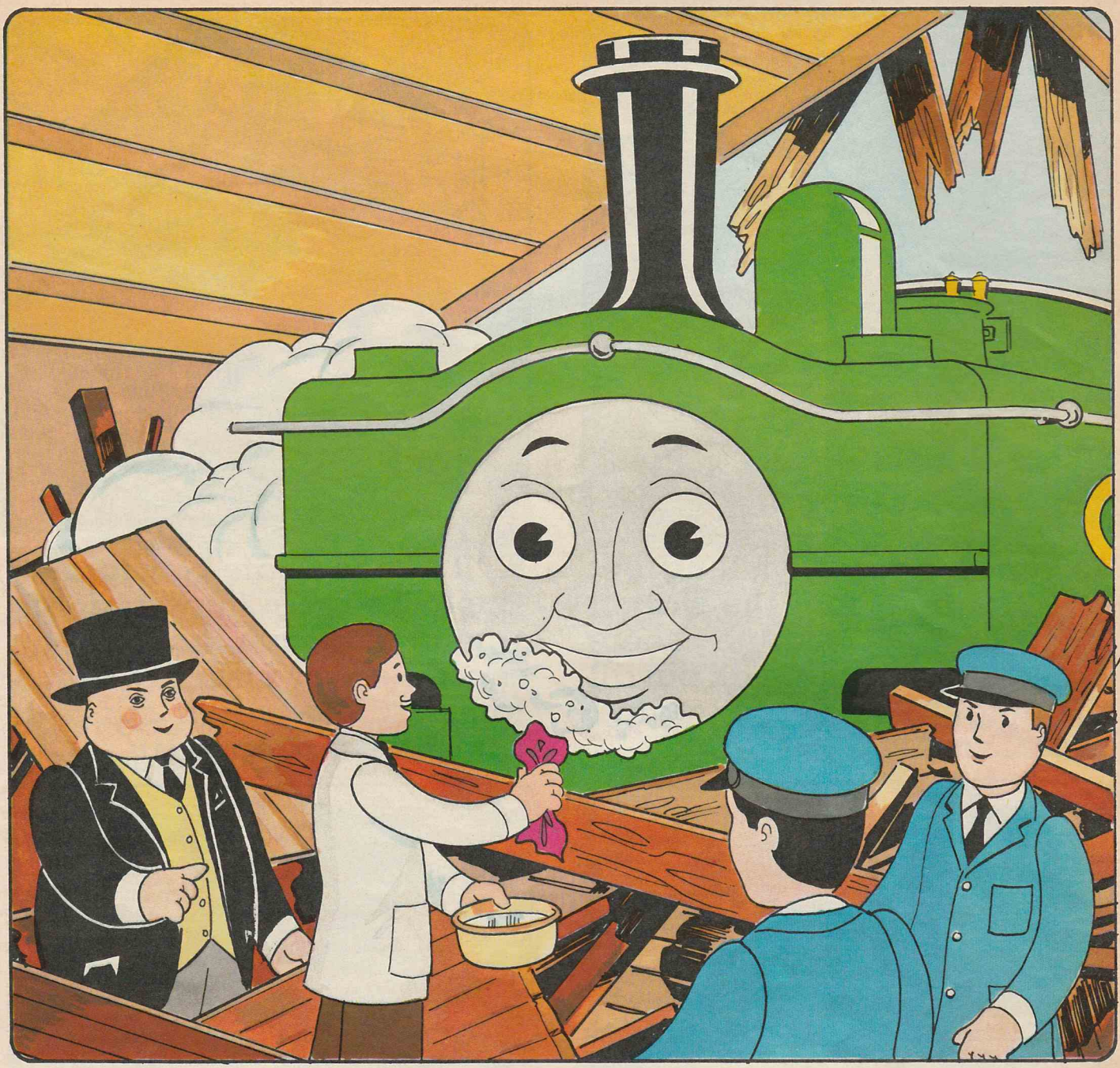
8. "It's too late," groaned Duck, veering into a siding where a barber had set up shop. He was shaving a customer. There was a crash as part of the wall caved in.



9. "Beg pardon, sir!" gasped Duck. "Excuse my intrusion." "I won't!" said the barber. "I'll teach you to frighten my customers!" He lathered poor Duck's face all over.



10. Thomas was helping to pull the trucks away when the Fat Controller arrived. "I do not like engines popping through my walls," the barber fumed.



11. "I see how you feel, but you must know that this engine and his crew have prevented a serious accident," said the Fat Controller. "It was a very close shave!" "Oh, excuse me," said the barber. He washed Duck's face with water. "I didn't know you were being a brave engine." "That's all right," said Duck. "Neither did I."

12. "I'm proud of you," said the Fat Controller. "And when you are properly washed and mended, you are coming home." "Do you mean the yard, sir?" asked Duck. "But they don't like me. They like Diesel." "Not now," said the Fat Controller. "I never believed Diesel, so I sent him packing. The engines are sorry. They want you back."

THE END

In our next issue: The Ghost Train!

JOIN THE DOTS!

Who is this puffing past? It's Duck! Join the dots to complete the picture – and then you can finish colouring it in too!

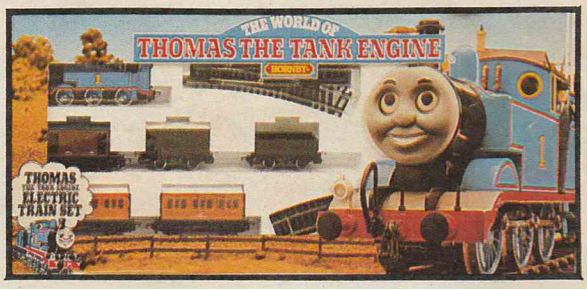
Our 20,000th Club member!

This is 5-year-old Daniel Powell from Pembroke who is our 20,000th member of the Thomas Club! Lucky Daniel wins a splendid Thomas the Tank Engine Electric Train Set from *Hornby*!

Daniel's school is near a railway line and so he often watches the trains and waves to the drivers.

He is a keen gardener and has grown **4 sunflowers** this year! He is also very fond of riding his bike, watching videos of **Thomas** and drawing pictures!

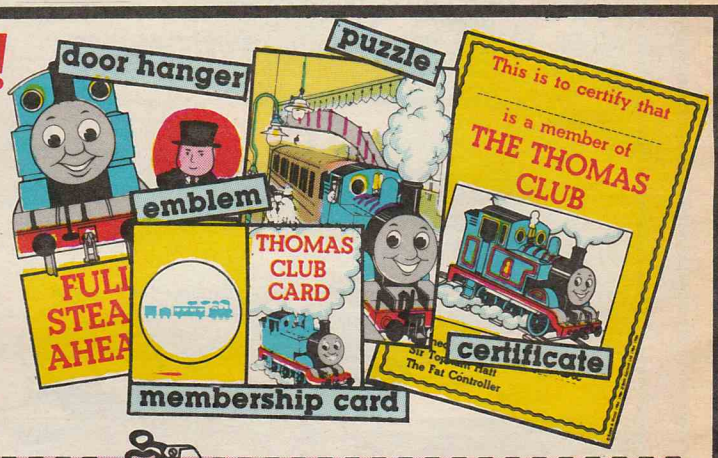
Well done, Daniel!



The set contains Thomas the Tank Engine, Annie and Clarabel, 3 wagons, lots of track and a siding, an uncoupler track, a buffer stop and a power clip.

Another splendid Thomas the Tank Engine Electric Train Set from *Hornby* will be won by our 50,000th Club member! Will it be ***you?***

News of a great offer!



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What's more, if you do not already belong to the *Thomas Club*, you will automatically become an immediate member and your exciting Club Pack will be sent to you too!

It costs £9.00 including postage and packing to subscribe to **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends** for one year. Just fill in the form and send it, together with a cheque or postal order for £9.00 to: *Thomas Subscriptions, Marvel Comics, 23 Redan Place, London W2 4SA.*

Please allow 28 days delivery of your first magazine and Club Pack.

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Name.....

Age..... **Birthday**.....

Address.....

.....

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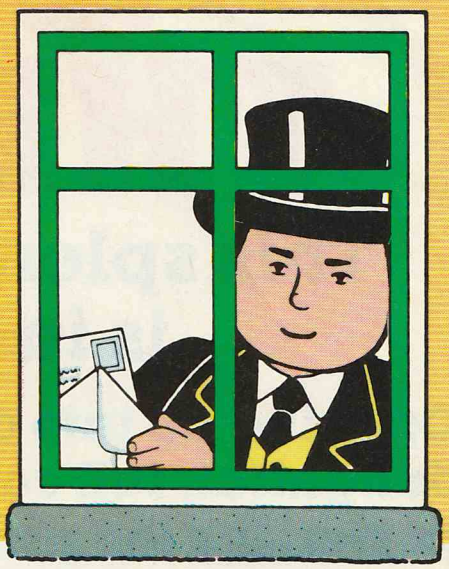
Write to:

THE FAT CONTROLLER



Have you got an amusing story to tell? Do you have a question you would like to ask about Thomas – or any of the other engines? Then why not write to me at the address below! I would be so pleased to hear from you!

STAR LETTER!

★★★★★★★★★

Dear Fat Controller,

One morning I was playing with Thomas, Annie and Clarabel. When I opened Annie's roof I found a bumble bee inside! Mummy took Annie outside and released the bumble bee into the garden.

Love, **Rachel**, aged 3.
Membership no. 1836

What a surprise! I am sure Annie was comforted by Clarabel, was she not?

Rachel wins a **Thomas the Tank Engine egg cup**, from *Wedgwood.*

★★★★★★★★★

MY PETS!

Dear Fat Controller,

I have got a goldfish called Percy and for my birthday I am getting two hamsters. I am calling one of them James and one of them Gordon.

Love from **Lee**, aged 4.

I had a pet hamster as a boy, but I'm blessed if I can remember its name!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Our best birthday wishes go to:

Michael McDade, Glenn Lane, Andrew Foxley, Robin Clarke, Michael Wren, James Aukett, Sam and Tim Bainbridge, Neil Roberts, Daniel Campbell, Thomas Dawson, Andrew Monteith, Stuart Hole, Sarah Pennington, Andrew Bethell, Andrew Neal, Robin Gardner, Stuart Sowerby, Ben Heather, Master Jones, Adrian Horsewood, John McNicholas, David Goldsmith, Anthony Sidney, Ryan Goldsmith, Daniel Gaylor, David Burgoyne, John Heydon, Jonathan Watson, Nigel Dawes, Michael Gregory, Kevin Ryan, Fraser West, Colin Richards, Daniel Lank, Jonathan May, William Hollinger, Robert Ougmore, Jamie O'Donnell, Charlotte-Louise Betteley, Colin Richards, Nicki Wild, Simon Thompson, Janine Whitehouse, Jonathan Doyle, Liam Hayton, Andrew Stevens, Jeremy Ruffle, Richard Cross, David Byrne, Nicholas Hopkinson, Stewart Robertson, Mark Reynolds, Mark Adam, Leigh Bushnell, Matthew Giacomini, Gareth Watkinson, Matthew Snowdon, Tom Bailey, Michael Wesson, Matthew Stanley Cornah, Dawn Clarke, Robin Kamphenkel, Colin Griffin, Peter Garbacz, David Marcham and **A. Morrison's grandson.**

Many happy returns to you all!

If you'd like a birthday mention, just send details, on a postcard please, and at least **8 weeks in advance!**

Yours,

Sir Topham Hatt.

Fat Controller.

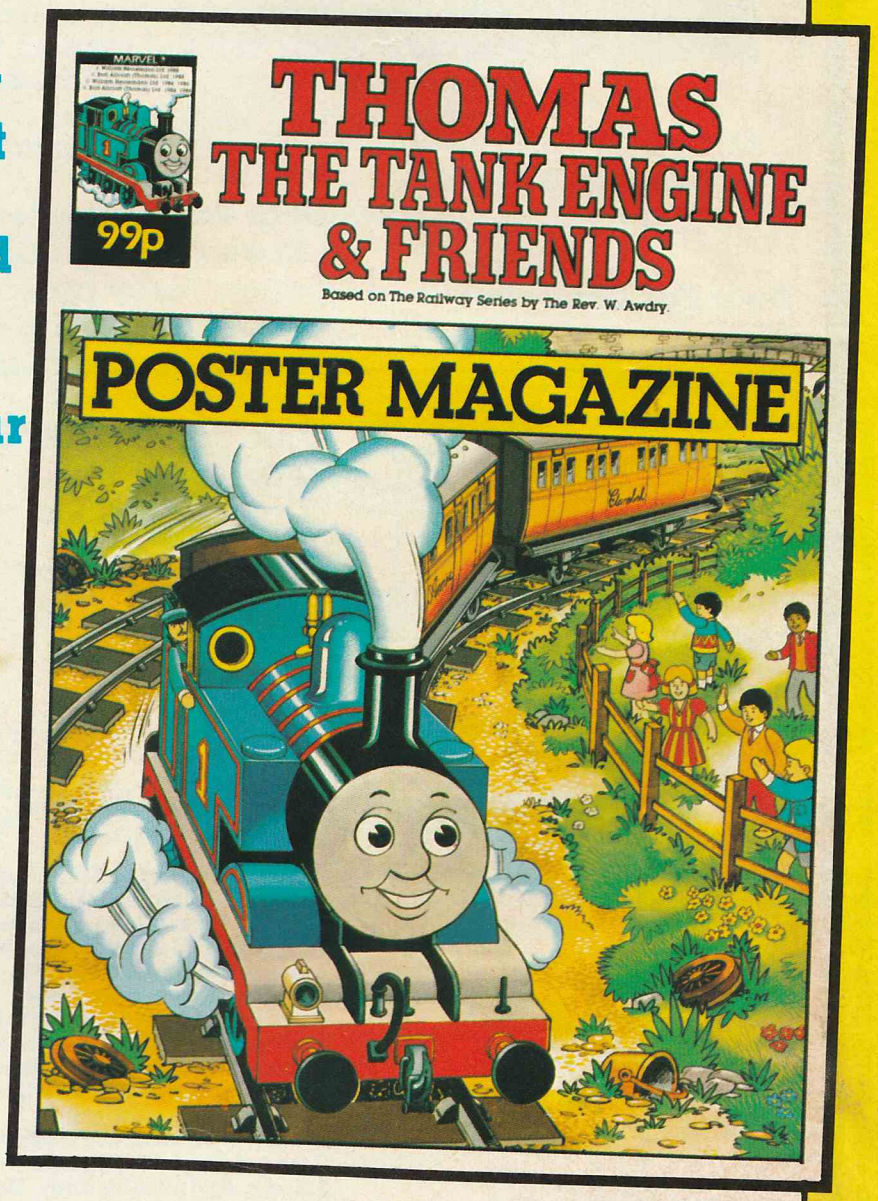
Send your letters to: **The Island of Sodor, c/o Marvel Comics Ltd, 13/15 Arundel Street, London WC2**

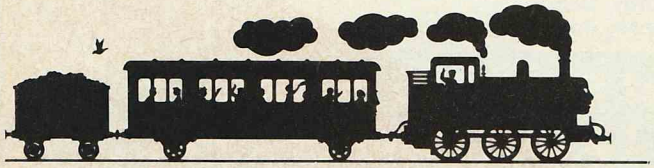
HEARD THE NEWS?

This splendid poster magazine is in the shops now!

Opening up into a delightful, full colour poster, it's the perfect way to bring the charm of Thomas and his friends to your bedroom, classroom, playgroup – even your kitchen!

On the back you'll find all sorts of interesting facts about your favourite engines, some valuable information about the Fat Controller, a big puzzle – and lots of splendid pictures!





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